



CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 2020

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IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
November 1	Tamil Nadu Day	-
November 1	World Vegan Day	-
November 2	International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists	-
November 4	International Stress Day	-
November 5	World Tsunami Awareness Day	“Strengthening disaster risk governance”.
November 6	International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	-
November 7	National Cancer Awareness Day	Together, We can Fight Cancer
November 8	International Day of Radiology	“Radiologists and radiographers supporting patients during COVID - 19”
November 9	National Legal Services Day	-
November 10	World Science Day	“Science for and with Society in dealing with COVID-19”.
November 10	World Immunization Day	-
November 11	National Education Day	-
November 12	World Pneumonia Day	-
November 12	Public Service Broadcasting Day	-
November 13	National Ayurveda Day	Ayurveda for COVID-19
November 14	World Diabetes Day	“The Nurse and Diabetes”
November 15	World Day of Remembrance for road Traffic Victims	“First Responders”
November 16	International Day for Tolerance	“Tolerance is respect, acceptance, and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world’s cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human.”
November 16	National Press Day	
November 17	National Epilepsy Day	-
November 18	World Chronic Obstructive	“Living Well with COPD -

	Pulmonary Disease (COPD day)	Everybody, Everywhere"
November 19	World Toilet Day	Sustainable Sanitation and Climate Change
November 19	Women's Entrepreneurship Day	-
November 19	International Men's Day	'Better health for men and boys'.
November 19	World Philosophy Day	"The importance of Philosophy in times of crisis".
November 20	World Children's day	'Reimagine a better future for every child'
November 21	World Television Day	-
November 21	World Fisheries Day	Social Responsibility in the fisheries value chain
November 25	International Day for Elimination of violence against women	"Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect"
November 26	Constitution Day	-
November 26	National Milk Day	-
November 27	11 th National Organ Donation Day	-
November 29	International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People	-
November 30	Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare	-
Weeks		
November 2 to 6	International Stress Awareness Week	-
November 15 to 21	National Newborn Week	
November 16 to 22	National Pharmacy Week	Pharmacists: Frontline health professionals
November 17 to 21	India Healthcare Week	-
November 19 to 25	World Heritage Week	Shared Culture', 'Shared heritage' and 'Shared responsibility"
November 17 to 21	World Antibiotic Awareness Week	-

TAMIL NADU

Ambition India

- France - is to hold a summit 'Ambition India' in December in Chennai to attract French investors to boost bilateral trade.
- It is also aimed to create a platform for Indian markets from Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in France

Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Amendment Act

- Industries and commercial entities investing more than Rs 20 crore (as per the norms of Tamil Nadu Industrial Policy) in the state can hold up to 30 standard acres (up to 120 acres land depending on the area and land tax norms) of dry land without any special permission from the government

Tea testing lab in the Nilgiris

- Chief minister Edappadi K Palanisamy - announced the setting up of a tea testing lab in the Nilgiris
- The CM introduced six new varieties of teas produced by the Indco tea factories and launched five mobile Indco-serve tea vans.

Electric Vehicle Policy 2020

- The tax exemption is applicable to both transport and non-transport vehicles
- The government had also announced incentives such as 100% GST reimbursement and 50% capital subsidy in order to attract investments.

K Radhakrishnan IPS

- He is a former director general of police and the state's pioneering traffic expert
- He is remembered for conceiving the Anna Flyover in Chennai

Mobile Amma Canteens

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami flagged off mobile Amma canteens for Chennai city
- These mobile canteens will visit parts of Greater Chennai Corporation and provide food to daily wage workers and those working at construction sites and other place
- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami - inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Apex Skill Development Centre for Healthcare and the Apex Skill Development Centre for Logistics at Chennai

- Both initiatives have received the support from the Japan International Co-operation Agency as part of the Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Programme, Phase-II.
- The Tamil Nadu Apex Skill Development Centre for Healthcare in Guindy is a joint venture between the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and Kauvery Hospital
- It is aimed at imparting high-end skills training in the healthcare sector.
- The Apex Skill Development Centre for Logistics at Oragadam is a collaboration between the TNSDC , Logistics Skill Sector Council and TVS Logistics
- It is aimed at improving skills of workers involved in the logistics sector.

Centre's Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)

- Tamil Nadu government will commence the rehabilitation of 59 dams, including Mettur and Sathanur, in the state under the second and third phase of Centre's Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)
- This project from World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

2nd National Water Award 2019 for Water Management

- Tamil Nadu won the first place in the Union ministry of Jal Shakti's 2nd National Water Awards for 2019 under the best state (normal) category for the conservation and management of water.
- Vellore and Karur districts of Tamil Nadu secured the 1st and 2nd position under the category of Revival of River.
- Perambalur district secured the 2nd position under the category of Water Conservation at national level.
- Sasthavinathur village panchayat in Thoothukudi district secured the 1st place under the Water Conservation category for the South.
- Madurai Corporation secured the 1st prize under the Best Urban Local Body which took water conservation efforts.
- Professor Sakthinathan Ganapathy Pandian, CWG Campus, Anna University secured the first and second positions under the Best Water Warrior category in South Zone.

Tamil Nadu - MBBS seats from this academic year

- These Seats will be allotted to three new private Colleges and also includes additional seats granted to six medical colleges in the State
- With this, the State will have 52 medical Colleges with a total capacity of 8,000 Seats
- This includes 26 government institutions that have 3,650 seats in total

The Puducherry government - launched a free breakfast scheme for school students named after former DMK chief M Karunanidhi

The draft electoral rolls for Tamil Nadu

- The draft electoral rolls for Tamil Nadu – was published on November 16 by the Election Commission of India, following a special summary revision.
- As per the rolls, the total electorate in the state remains at 6.10 crore.
- There are 3.01 crore male voters, 3.09 women voters and 6,385 third gender voters
- Woman voters continue to outnumber men in the state
- In terms of largest electorate, Sholinganallur assembly segment tops the state with 6.55 lakh voters.
- Kilvelur in Nagapattinam district has the smallest electorate with 1.7 lakh voters

The State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (SIPCOT)

- It has obtained environmental clearance for the development of an industrial park at Manallur and Soorapoondi villages in Gummidipoondi, Tiruvallur district.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) gave the clearance for the industrial park last week.

Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TIIC)

- The Tamil Nadu government - has initiated steps to restructure the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TIIC).
- The move is part of government's efforts to revive the economy by boosting the industrial sector
- The corporation was established under the Companies Act in 1949

Greater Chennai Corporation - has proposed to construct Rs 50 crore green building to host an innovation think tank at its headquarters

- The proposed think tank will analyze its data and propose solutions to civic problems.

November 21, 2020 - Tamil Nadu government - promulgated an ordinance banning 'online' games involving wagering and betting

- The move follows a series of suicides and complaints about people losing their hard-earned money in such online games
- 5,000 fine and six months jail for those found playing such games. Those running common gaming house will get `10,000 fine and two-year jail.

Guidance Tamil Nadu Bureau

- Guidance Tamil Nadu Bureau - is planning to roll out 188 Government to Business (G2B) services across 37 departments.
- The bureau will also launch a Central Inspection System, which will integrate four departments – the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, Labour Department and directorate of Boilers.

Chennai - gets a dedicated reservoir for drinking water

- Chennai - gets a dedicated reservoir for drinking water supply after a gap of 76 years with the commissioning of the Kannankottai-Thervoy Kandigai reservoir on November 21.
- Located about 50 km from Chennai, the ₹380 crore Kannankottai-Thervoy Kandigai reservoir will store the Krishna water.
- This has been facilitated through an 8.6-km link canal, which will start from the Kandaleru-Poondi canal.

Solar-powered unmanned autonomous survey craft

- Researchers from IIT, Madras - have developed a solar-powered unmanned autonomous survey craft to do hydrographic and oceanographic surveys.
- The unmanned survey craft will be used in Indian ports and inland waterways
- It can be used for autonomous surveys to measure depth of water and underwater topography at ports, harbours, waterways, dams, lakes, lagoons and other shallow water zones and transmit data real-time over longer distances 'precisely and accurately'

Force of Nature

Cyclone 'NIVAR'

- The name 'Nivar' was given by Iran. In Persian, it means light

World's first known use of Nanotechnology

- The scientists - have discovered the world's first known use of nanotechnology, dating over 2,600 years ago, in broken pieces of pottery found in the excavation site, Keeladi
- Before this, the oldest known carbon nanostructures were found in Damascus blades from the 16th-18th century CE
- The technique for coating used in Damascus blades appears to have been known only to Indians, indicating that they were also made in India.

CM launches portal to improve telecom facilities

- With a view to strengthen the telecom infrastructure in the state and to deliver quick approvals for telecom service providers or infrastructure providers (TSP/IP) for various service, chief minister Edapadi K Palaniswami on Tuesday launched the 'right of Way portal' - [https:// row.tn.gov.in](https://row.tn.gov.in).

Video conference facility for govt observation homes

- With this facility cases related to the inmates of the above homes could be heard without them being taken to the 16 Juvenile justice Boards in person.

"India Today - MDRA State of the States study 2020"

- Tamil Nadu has been adjudged the best performing Big State for the third consecutive Year, according to the "India Today - MDRA State of the States study 2020"
- The State has topped in as many as 11 categories from a total of 12, including economy, tourism, infrastructure, inclusive development, law and order, along with entrepreneurship, cleanliness, environment, health, education and agriculture.
- Tamil Nadu secured the top spot, scoring a total of 1,263.1 Points out of 2,000 for its overall performance
- The State also stood second in fighting the Covid Pandemic, securing 74.2 Points out of a 100
- Earlier, Tamil Nadu bagged the first position in the composite ranking for good governance index (GGI) last year

Tamil Nadu's first compressed natural gas (CNG)

- It launched by Torrent gas at a retail outlet being run on behalf of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) at Porvacheri

SIDBI Signs MoU with TamilNadu Govt to Develop MSMEs in the State

- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TamilNadu(TN) government to develop the MSMEs(Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) ecosystem in the state. Under the MoU, a Project Management Unit (PMU) will be set up by SIDBI in TamilNadu

STATE

Dharani Portal

- Telangana Chief Minister, K Chandrasekhar Rao - launched first-of-its-kind Dharani Portal
- The portal will be used to store land records and for property registrations digitally.
- The initiative was aimed at replacing the human interface and eliminates the scope for corruption in the revenue and registration departments.

India's first solar energy powered miniature train

- On November 2, India's first solar energy powered miniature train - was inaugurated by the Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan
- It has been inaugurated at the Veli Tourist Village in Kerala.

Tea testing lab in the Nilgiris

- Chief minister Edappadi K Palanisamy - announced the setting up of a tea testing lab in the Nilgiris
- The CM introduced six new varieties of teas produced by the Indco tea factories and launched five mobile Indco-serve tea vans.

'Nyay Kaushal',

- 'Nyay Kaushal' - India's first ever E-resource centre and virtual court in Nagpur.

Luhri Stage - I Hydro Power Project

- Luhri Stage-I Hydro Electric Project located on river
- Satluj situated in Shimla & Kullu districts of Himachal Pradesh (HP) . This project, to be commissioned within 62 months, will generate 758.20 million units of electricity annually

Fish Nutrition

- Odisha Government adds Fish Nutrition to Anganwadi Diet Chat

'Sarna Code'

- Jharkhand Assembly unanimously passed a resolution on 'Sarna Code' during a special one-day assembly session on November 11, 2020. The resolution seeks inclusion of Sarna as a separate religion in the 2021 census.

'Cow cabinet'

- The cabinet will work towards the conservation, promotion and welfare of the cow cattle in the state

'Gau Cabinet'

- Madhya Pradesh (MP) Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan established the First of its kind 'Gau Cabinet' in the country for the protection and promotion of cattle in the state.
- NE's 1st Cow Hospital inaugurated at Dibrugarh, Assam

First memorial for organ donors

- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot to inaugurate the country's first memorial for organ donors on the eve of Indian Organ Donation Day on November 27 through virtual platform
- The exclusive memorial was set up to acknowledge and express gratitude towards the organ donors

UN World Food Programme to Achieve Food & Nutritional Security Goals

- The United Nations (UN)'s World Food Programme(WFP) signed a Letter of Understanding (LoU) with the Government of Rajasthan for the proposed participation to achieve food and nutritional security goals.

Hyperloop

- It is a next-generation travel system which uses pods or capsules travelling at high speeds through low-pressure tubes erected on columns or tunnelled underground using magnetic levitation.

Hyperloop in India

- Maharashtra Government recognized hyperloop as a public infrastructure project and approved the Virgin Hyperloop-DP World Consortium for the Mumbai-Pune hyperloop project.

- In October, 2020 Virgin Hyperloop announced a partnership with Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) to conduct feasibility study for a proposed hyperloop corridor from Bangalore Airport.

The Country's first Solar Power enabled textile mill in Asia

- The Country's first Solar Power enabled textile mill in Asia was announced in Parbhani district of Maharashtra
- The Jai Bhawani women cooperative textile mill recently announced that the mill will soon operate on solar power



NATIONAL

DST-IIEST Solar PV Hub at Shibpur

Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) signed between India and Japan

- The MoC seeks to strengthen cooperation between both the countries in the field of telecom security, submarine cable, 5G, utilization of latest wireless technologies, Disaster relief, spectrum management, block chain, standard certification of communication equipment and cooperation on multilateral platforms

Panna National Park of Madhya Pradesh

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - has recently included the Panna National Park of Madhya Pradesh under its "World network of Biosphere reserves".

'Mission Sagar-II'

- Indian Naval Ship (INS) Airavat entered Port Sudan with 100 Tonnes of Food aid as part of Mission Sagar-II.

"Statue of Peace"

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi - unveiled "Statue of Peace" in Pali city of Rajasthan
- The statue is being unveiled to mark the 151st birth anniversary of Jain Acharya Shree Vijay Vallabh Surishwer Ji Maharaj.

The National Saffron Mission

- NECTAR refers to North East Centre for Technology Application and Research (NECTAR).
- The mission that was so far confined to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is planned to be commenced in Sikkim soon
- NECTAR is an autonomous body under which the pilot project to explore feasibility of growing saffron in the North East region was determined.

Ministry of Shipping Renamed

- The Government of India renamed the Ministry of Shipping as the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Hazir - Ghogha ferry Service in Gujarat

- Virtual inauguration of Ro-Pax Ferry service between Hazira in Surat district in south Gujarat and Ghogha in Bhavnagar district of Gujarat. The vessel Voyage Symphony will be used for this service.

India's Longest Motorable Suspension Bridge 'Dobra-Chanthi' in Tehri-Garhwal

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister, Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the 725-metre-long Dobra-Chanti suspension bridge in Tehri-Garhwal district. It is the longest motorable single lane suspension bridge in India.

India's Longest River Bridge in Northeast

- The 20 kilometer(km) 4 lane road bridge across River Brahmaputra connecting Dhubri of Assam to Phulbair of Meghalaya on National Highway(NH) 127B. This will be India's longest Bridge over a River in the northeast.

'Bharat Darshan-Dakshin Bharat Yatra'

- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will be commencing 'Bharat Darshan-Dakshin Bharat Yatra' from December 12.
- The theme of this yatra will be 'Show India to Indians'

Australia-India Water Centre (AIWC)

- This Water Centre is led by IIT Guwahati from Indian side and University of Western Sydney from the Australian side.
- It will help in fighting against the common water challenges and issues faced by both the countries like floods, droughts, water security, climate change, over-exploitation of water, degradation of water quality, et

Tank Ammunition Development Project to Private Sector

- For the First Time, Indian Army has given Project sanction order to Private Firm OshoCorp Global for development and supply of Specialised ammunition for its Main Battle Tanks T-72 and T-90.

Malayalam film Jallikattu - has been selected as India's official entry for Oscars 2021

The Union Cabinet - cleared the merger of Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) with DBS Bank India

- Soon after Cabinet approval, the RBI said, all the branches of LVB will function as branches of DBS Bank India from November 27.
- DBS Bank will be making necessary arrangements to ensure regular service is provided to customers of LVB
- The bank's shares will stop trading on the Bombay Stock Exchange on November 26
- Last week, the government had placed LVB under moratorium.

India, US Extended Nuclear Energy Partnership "GCNEP" by 10 more years

27th edition of India-Singapore Bilateral Maritime Exercise (SIMBEX-20)

- The 27th edition of India - Singapore Bilateral Maritime Exercise SIMBEX-20 from 23 to 25 November 2020 in Andaman Sea in a "non-contact, at sea only" format amid COVID-19. It is an annual exercise between IN and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).

'Mitigation and Management of Covid-19: Practices from India's States & UTs'

- National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog released a compendium titled "Mitigation & Management of Covid-19- Practices from India's States & Union Territories". It was released by NITI Aayog Member Dr Vinod K Paul, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Amitabh Kant and Additional Secretary Dr Rakesh Sarwal.

Narendra Singh Tomar Launched Nafed's Honey FPO Programs In 5 States

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare virtually inaugurated the Honey Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) Programs of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) under the "Formation & Promotion of 10,000 FPOs" Scheme in 5 states (West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan).

Israel Committed its Partnership with India for future with Low Carbon, Pollution Levels

- A digital conference of the India-led International Solar Alliance (ISA) was held on November 27, 2020 where Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has committed his partnership with India for lowering carbon and pollution levels in future

- He expressed his confidence that in Israel solar energy would constitute over 25% of energy supply by 2030.

Ayurveda Doctors

- The government - has notified to allow Ayurveda doctors to get trained and legally perform a variety of general surgical, ENT, ophthalmology, ortho and dental procedures.
- The Centre's move comes after the Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM) amended the Indian Medicine Central Council (Post Graduate Ayurveda Education) Regulations, 2016.

PM Takes Vaccine Tour

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi -visited the units of three Vaccine manufacturers in India to review the progress of Vaccine development and manufacturing process
- The PM visited Zydus Biotech park in Ahmedabad, Bharat Biotech in Hyderabad and serum Institute of India (SII) in Pune

Mission COVID Suraksha

- The Government launched Mission COVID Suraksha to speed up the vaccine development in the country.
- It aims to ensure that the vaccines under development are brought closer to the market

Sahakar Pragya

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare - recently launched a new initiative 'Sahakar Pragya' to train the primary cooperative societies in the country

The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope Observatory

- The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope observatory located in Pune - has been granted the prestigious IEEE milestone status.
- The observatory was conferred the honour as an acknowledgement of its significant technical achievement, services, its excellence as unique product, patent and seminal papers that aim to benefit humanity

Rs.100 Years of University of Lucknow

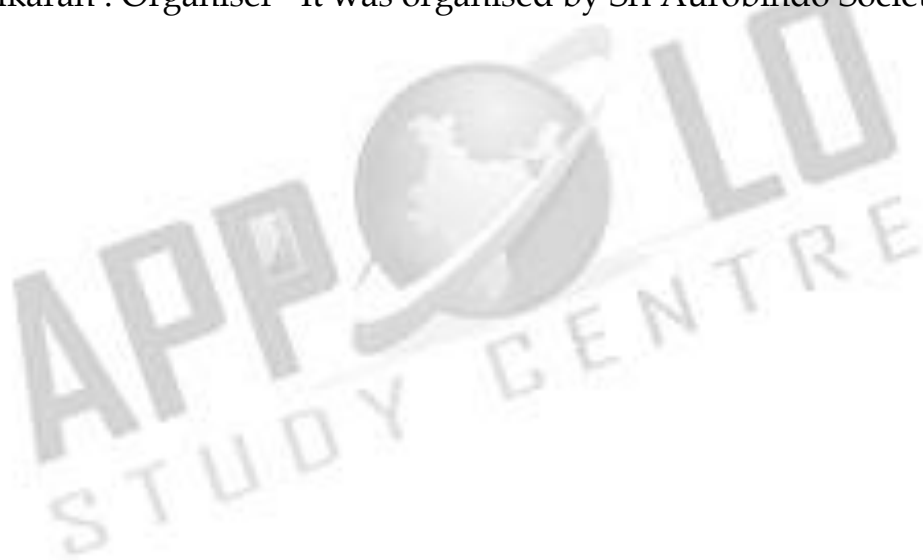
- He also released the commemorative stamp issued by the India Post and its cover at the event organised for the celebration of the 100th Foundation day of the University of Lucknow, Uttarpradesh

CSC ecosystem

- MEITY and IBM India collaborate to upskill members of CSC ecosystem in AI & Cloud

'Empowering Through Zero- Shunya Se Sashaktikaran'

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Union Minister of Education chaired and addressed a virtual national conference on 'Empowering Through Zero- Shunya Se Sashaktikaran'. Organiser- It was organised by Sri Aurobindo Society.



INTERNATIONAL

Typhoon Goni

- Typhoon Goni- hit the eastern part of the Philippines on November 1, 2020 and made the hardest landfall on record
- The typhoon is being considered as the world's strongest storm so far this year.

United States formally exits Paris Climate Agreement to curb climate change

- United States (US) became the first country to formally exit the Paris Climate Agreement.

United Nations adopted 3 resolutions sponsored by India

- The two resolutions namely "Convention on Prohibition of the use of Nuclear Weapons" and "Reducing Nuclear Danger" were adopted by UN
- The first resolution is being tabled by India since 1982, while the second one is tabled since 1998.

Joe Biden Elected 46th President of US; Kamala Harris becomes 1st Woman to serve as Vice President

- Joe Biden of Democratic Party passed the 270 vote electoral college required to claim victory in the 2020 United States (U.S.) Presidential election, making him President-elect of the U.S. and Senator Kamala Harris of Democratic Party as Vice President-elect.

Indian in Joe Biden team

- US president - elect Joe Biden - named a 500 - member transition team, including more than 20 Indian - Americans
- Earlier, Biden named Indian - American Vivek Murthy, a former US Surgeon general, to co - chair a Covid task force
- Further, the task force consists of two other Indian-Americans - Indian-American doctor Atul Gawande and Dr Celine Gounder, an infectious disease specialist

India, Nepal Launch construction of 3rd Integrated Check Post to boost Trade

- India and Nepal launched the construction of 3rd Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Nepalgunj, Nepal which will bring customs and immigration facilities under one roof to smoothen cross-border movement of cargo trucks. The Portion on Indian side will be built at Rupaidiha (Uttar Pradesh).

nOPV2 vaccine for Polio

- The World Health Organization (WHO) listed nOPV2 (novel Oral Polio Vaccine type 2) Polio vaccine produced by Indonesia's Bio Farma PT for Emergency Use Listing (EUL), this is the first approval by WHO of its kind amidst several outbreaks in several parts of the world

India Ranked 77th Position Globally Ranking

- A global list of measuring business bribery risks "The 2020 Global TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix"

12th Counter Terrorism Dialogue between India and the European Union

- The 12th Counter Terrorism Dialogue was held virtually between India and the European Union (EU).
- The Dialogue was co-chaired by Mr Mahaveer Singhvi, Joint Secretary for Counter Terrorism, Ministry of External Affairs of India and Ms Joanneke Balfourt, Director for Security Policy, European External Action Service

The World Economic Forum

- It is selected 36 cities from 22 countries for Pioneering a policy roadmap for smart cities
- These smart cities are being developed under the G20 Global Smart Cities Alliance

UAE: First Arab Country to generate electricity from coal

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is all set to become the first Arab Gulf country, and probably the last, to generate electricity from coal, as; the Acwa Power of Saudi Arabia is developing a \$3.4 billion Hassyan coal plant in Dubai

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

India and Finland sign MOU

- India and Finland sign MOU for developing cooperation in the field of environmental protection and biodiversity conservation.

Trilateral Maritime Security Cooperation

- Trilateral discussions among India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives on maritime security cooperation

India, Vietnam Virtual Defence Bilateral Talks

- Rajnath Singh Participated in India, Vietnam Virtual Defence Bilateral Talks; signs implementation agreement on hydrography
- During the meet, various discussions were held regarding ongoing projects, collaboration in Defence Industry capability building, training and cooperation in United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Operations

India and the United States

- It have extended the Indo - US Civil Nuclear Energy agreement for another ten years
- India buys the nuclear material from United States based on this agreement, which is also called '123 agreement'

APPOINTMENTS

Board of International Dairy Federation

- Dilip Rath, Chairman of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) was unanimously elected to the Board of IDF.

Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha

- Information Commissioner Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha - was administered the oath as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) by President Ram Nath Kovind.

Priyanca Radhakrishnan

- She becomes New Zealand's first-ever Indian-origin Minister.
- Priyanca was appointed as Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Minister for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities, Minister for Youth. She was also appointed as Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment.

M M Kutty Appointed as the 1st Chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas

Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha

- On 7th November 2020, Ram Nath Govind, President of India administered the "Oath of Office" for Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha (62 years), former Diplomat as the 11th Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) in the Central Information Commission of India.

NLD Party Wins Majority in 2020 Myanmar election

- According to the Union Election Commission (UEC) of Myanmar, Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) is likely to win the 2020 Myanmar elections by securing 346 seats out of 664 seats in the Parliament (as on 13th November) which is enough to form the next government

Nitish Kumar takes charge as Bihar Chief Minister for the 7th Time; Renu Devi becomes First Woman Deputy CM of Bihar

- His swearing-in ceremony was administered by Governor Phagu Chauhan, along with Nitish Kumar 14 Ministers from NDA (National Democratic Alliance) took oath as Ministers.

GC Murmu 14th CAG of India Elected as External Auditor of Inter Parliamentary Union

- Girish Chandra(G.C.) Murmu, 14th Comptroller and Auditor General(CAG) of India elected as the External Auditor of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) for 3 years. He will take charge of this position from the Supreme Audit Institution of Switzerland

Roch Marc Christian Kaboré Wins 2nd Term as The President of Burkina Faso

- Roch Marc Christian Kaboré (63 years old) of People's Movement for Progress(MPP) party, won the 2nd term as the President of Burkina Faso by winning the 2020 presidential elections.

New chairman of International Cricket Council

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has named New Zealand's Greg Barclay as its new independent chairman to succeed Shashank Manohar. He defeated Imran Khwaja in the second round of voting

SCHEMES

“SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)”

- The scheme has two components- SERB-POWER Fellowship and SERB- POWER Research Grants.

“Meri Saheli”

- Indian Railways - has launched an initiative called “Meri Saheli”
- This initiative launched by RPF focuses on the security of women across all railway zones.
- The primary objective of the initiative is to provide safety and security to lady passengers travelling by trains for their entire journey from source station to destination station

‘Parivarthanam’

- ‘Parivarthanam’ scheme Launched for fishers in Kerala; ICAR-CIBA, ADAK sign MoU to Increase Brackish Water Fish Production

Country ‘s first Solar based Integrated Multi - Village water Supply project (IMVWSP)

- Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat - launched the country’s first solar-based Integrated Multi-Village Water Supply Project (IMVWSP) in Arunachal Pradesh on November 6

Digital Life Certificate (DLC) through postmen

- The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions - introduced a chargeable doorstep service for submission of Digital Life Certificate (DLC) through postmen.
- The move is aimed at bringing relief to lakhs of Central government pensioners.

14 More Water Aerodromes for Seaplane Services Under RCS UDAN Scheme

- The Government of India plans to set up 14 more water aerodromes across India under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA).
- This follows the launch of the first seaplane service between the Statue of Unity in Kevadiya of Narmada Gujarat and Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.

PM-KUSUM scheme goal to 30.8 GW of solar capacity by 2022

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) issued an order for scale-up and expansion of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) Scheme.

Gaushalas

- The Union government is planning a scheme under which registered gaushalas in the country will receive financial assistance
- Under the Scheme, a sum of Rs. 900 Crore has been set aside for providing funding to the gaushalas that were facing a financial Crunch

SAANS (Social Action and Awareness to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully) campaign

- The scheme focuses to raise awareness regarding childhood pneumonia and its early intervention, enabling the caregivers across the country to identify critical symptoms at early stages and immediate care-seeking with qualified providers.

Puducherry launches Free Breakfast Scheme for Government School Students named after Dr Karunanidhi

- Puducherry Government formally launched a free breakfast scheme “Dr Kalaingar Mu Karunanidhi Kaalai Sitrundi Thittam” (Dr Kalaingar M Karunanidhi breakfast scheme) named after Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Dr Kalaingar M Karunanidhi for Government and Government aided school’s students.

Bharatmala Scheme

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) - has floated a tender for phase III of Chennai-Bengaluru Expressway project under Bharatmala scheme.
- The tender involves the construction of the four-lane road between Kancheepuram and Arakkonam

POSHAN Abhiyaan

- 6 Organizations - International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund) India, Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI), Pregnancy and Obesity Nutrition Initiative (PONI), Alive & Thrive, Nutrition International and ARTIST for Her (Asian Research & Training Institute for Skill Transfer) have partnered to strengthen the implementation of the POSHAN (Prime Minister’s Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition) Abhiyaan.

“Har Ghar Nal Yojna”

- PM Modi launched “Har Ghar Nal Yojna” drinking water projects in UP’s Mirzapur, Sonbhadra
- The scheme will be completed within the next two years (24 months).

“Jagananna Thodu”

- AP CM, Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy Launched Interest Free Loan scheme “Jagananna Thodu”
- It aimed to benefit several small traders and street vendors.



COMMITTEES

Sandip Bhagat

- SEBI Setup a 7 Member Expert Group to Review the Share Based Employee Benefits; Chaired by Sandip Bhagat

Arun Goel

- Govt Sets up 21 member Inter-Ministerial Committee Headed by Arun Goel to Strengthen Capital Goods Sector
- NITI Aayog forms panel headed by VK Saraswat to study Feasibility of Virgin Hyperloop in India

“Guidelines on Television Rating Agencies in India”

- The committee is headed by Shashi S. Vempati, CEO(Chief Executive Officer) of Prasar Bharti.
- Purpose of the committee- The committee will examine and study different aspects of the television rating system in India and will notify the changes if required.

BILLS / ACTS

Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020

- President Ram Nath Kovind in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of article 123 of the Indian Constitution promulgated the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996

Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill 2020

- Kashmiri, Dogri and Hindi also added to the existing Urdu and English, will be the official languages in the union territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir.

Labour Ministry notifies Draft rules for Industrial Relations Code

- The Ministry of Labour and Employment notified the draft rules for the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 in the Official Gazette of India
- Parliament had approved the **Three Labour Codes** – Code on Industrial Relations, the Code on Social Security and the Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions.
- The Industrial Relation (Central) Rules, 2020 will replace the Industrial Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1949, the Industrial Tribunal (Central Procedure) Rules, 1954, the Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957 and Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central Rules, 1946.

FCRA rules for the NGOs

- The Union Home Ministry – has notified new tougher FCRA rules for the NGOs that intend to receive foreign funding
- Henceforth, such NGOs must have existed for at least three years and spent a minimum amount of Rs. 15 lakh in voluntary activities for the benefit of society during the last three financial years to be eligible to receive money from abroad.
- The Ministry notified new rules under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010 on November 11, thereby amending the FCRA Rules, 2011

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)

- This was scheduled after India and the US decided to share Space Situational Awareness Information with each other
- The joint statement on this was issued after the 2+2 strategic dialogue between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and their US counterparts.
- Both side applauded the ongoing collaboration between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Dairy Production in Indus Valley Civilisation

- The research of archaeologist of India and Canada found evidence of dairy production in the Indus Valley Civilization. The research discovered that dairy was produced and processed by the Harappans back in 2500 BCE(Before the Common Era).

16 Psyche asteroid

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) - has found that 16 Psyche asteroid orbiting between Mars and Jupiter is made of rare metals such as gold, cobalt, platinum, rhenium and iridium.

Indian space research organisation (ISRO)

- ISRO successfully launched PSLV-C49 carrying 10 satellites, including earth observation satellite EOS-01, at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- This is ISRO's first mission in 2020 after the Covid-19 pandemic induced lockdown affected the launch of 10 missions planned by the agency.
- EOS-01, previously called Risat-2BR2, has an all-weather X-band radar, intended for applications in agriculture, forestry and disaster management support.

Thirty meter Telescope Project

- Indian Astronomers Collaborate with 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Andrea Ghez on Thirty Meter Telescope Project
- Indian Astronomers had worked closely with 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Professor Andrea Ghez for designing the back-end instruments and possible science prospects of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project which is being

installed at Maunakea in Hawaii. The project will revolutionize the understanding of the universe and mysteries surrounding it.

World's First 6G Satellite Sent Into Orbit by China

- China has successfully launched the world's first 6G satellite named "UESTC" satellite (Star Era-12)" into orbit with an aim to test communications from space using high-frequency terahertz (THz) spectrum. It was one of the 13 satellites aboard the Long March-6 rocket, which launched on November 6, 2020 at the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in Shanxi province of China

"Rohanixalus"

- "Rohanixalus": New Genus of Tree Frog Discovered in Andaman Island and Northeast India
- A team of researchers from India, China, Indonesia and Thailand had found a new genus of tree frogs in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and the Northeastern parts of India.

Wildlife Institute of India Survey

- Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in the second phase of its survey of the entire main stem of Ganga river (Main river without its tributaries) found that 49% of the river has high biodiversity and increased biodiversity sightings. Scientists have stated that this indicated reduction of pollution levels and a healthier state of the river.

Serum Institute of India (SII)

- Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) - has already manufactured 40 million doses of the Covid-19 vaccine candidate - Covishield - developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca
- The SII had commenced the production to ensure early availability of the Covid-19 vaccine, once approved.

A five-year action plan (2020-25) for conservation of the Vultures

- The Centre - announced a five-year action plan (2020-25) for conservation of the Vultures in the backdrop of substantial decline in the population of vultures in the country.

SpaceX launches 4 astronauts into space

- SpaceX launched four **astronauts** on this flight are Michael S. Hopkins, Shannon Walker and Victor J. Glover of NASA and Soichi Noguchi, a Japanese **astronaut**. To the International Space Station on the first full-fledged taxi flight for NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) by a private company. They were launched by Falcon Rocket from the Kennedy Space Center.
- The capsule has been named as “Resilience”.

India's Becomes 4th Nation WWRNS in the world

- The Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) (operational name NavIC - Navigation with Indian Constellation) has been accepted as a component of the World Wide Radio Navigation System (WWRNS) for operation in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). India became the Fourth Country in the world to have its independent regional navigation satellite recognised by IMO.
- The Other three Countries are the United States (US), Russia and China

NASA, ESA launch 'Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich'

- A Satellite developed by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), United States (US) & European Space Agency (ESA) to monitor rising global sea levels was successfully launched into the orbit by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Space Launch Complex 4E at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California

Chang'e-5

- China Successfully Launched its 1st spacecraft to Collect Samples from Moon; Also World's 1st since 1976.
- China National Space Administration (CNSA) has successfully launched the 8.2 tonne lunar probe namely “Chang'e-5” through Long March-5, China's largest carrier rocket. The launch took place from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern province of Hainan, China. Its task is to bring 2kgs of sample soil and rock of moon to earth in a mission of around 23 days.

Russia Test-Launches

- Russia Successfully Test-Fired Tsirkon hypersonic Cruise Missile in White Sea

India's First Moss Garden

- India's First Moss Garden was inaugurated at Khurpatal, Nainital District of Uttarakhand by renowned Water Conservation Activist of India, Rajendra Singh (also known as Water Man of India).
- The Garden has been set up for the purpose of conservation of different species of moss.

India's Supercomputer Param Siddhi

- It has been ranked at 63rd Position in TOP 500 most powerful non - distributed computer system list in the World.
- Param Siddhi is a high- Performance computing - artificial intelligence (HPC - AI) Supercomputing Mission

The Hualong One

- China has powered up its first domestically developed nuclear reactor - the Hualong One
- The development is seen as part of china's attempts to become less dependent on Western allies for energy security and critical technology

Team Halo

- The United Nations along with "the Vaccine confidence project" of University of London launched "Team Halo" recently
- More than 100 Scientists from different parts of the World have come together under the project
- Team Halo aims to tackle misinformation on safety and effectiveness of Covid - 19 Vaccines

Australia to host Temporary Ground Station Tracking facilities for ISRO's Gaganyaan Mission

- Australian Space Agency (ASA), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) are working together to set up Temporary ground station tracking facilities in Australia for ISRO's Gaganyaan Mission

India Climate Change Knowledge Portal

- The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar - recently launched the India climate change knowledge Portal

- The Portal will hold information about the steps taken by the government at both National and international levels to address climate change issues and initiatives of the government
- This will be the “Single Point Information Resource” updates initiatives by various Ministries Nationally and Internationally, towards the fight on climate change

Wind - Solar Hybrid Parks

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy - has proposed a new Scheme to develop Wind - Solar Hybrid Parks.
- The Wind - Solar Hybrid Park will be a concentrated zone of Power projects, which includes evacuation facilities as well to minimize the risks



CONFERENCE & SUMMITS

Virtual Global Investor Roundtable 2020 conference

- In order to attract investments in India, the Global Investor Roundtable (VGIR) 2020 conference was held virtually which was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It focuses on discussions around three important areas such as India's economic and investment outlook, structural reforms, and the government's vision for making the country a \$5 trillion economy.

India Luxembourg Virtual Summit

- Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi holds a virtual India-Luxembourg Bilateral Summit with Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister of Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for strengthening the relation between both nations in the post-COVID times. The key focus areas of the association include financial technology, green financing, space applications, digital innovations and start-ups, among others

BRICS Business Forum held virtually from October

- The BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China & Republic of South Africa) Business Forum was held virtually from October 20-28, 2020. The meeting is being held online for the first time due to Pandemic (originally planned to be held in Moscow(Russia), and St. Petersburg (Russia)).

India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments

- India hosted the 8th Meeting of the India-UAE(United Arab Emirates) High Level Joint Task Force on Investments(the Joint Task Force) virtually due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization Council of Heads of State Summit.

- India was represented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the summit through video conferencing in New Delhi
- During his speech, PM Modi called for SCO member-states to respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity while taking measures to improve and deepen connectivity

1st BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting Virtual

- The 1st BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting under the Chairmanship of Russia.
- **Agenda:** To discuss the outcomes of G20 (Group of Twenty) Saudi Presidency in 2020, a digital platform to encourage infrastructure investments and expansion of the membership of the New Development Bank (NDB).

13th Urban mobility India Conference

- 13th Urban Mobility India Conference 2020 held Virtually for 1st Time; Inaugurated by MoS Hardeep Singh Puri
- The 14th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference and Expo 2021 will be held on October 29-31, 2021 in Kochi, Kerala

20th Summit of SCO Council of Heads of State 2020

- This was the first SCO Summit held in Virtual Format and the third meeting that India participated after becoming a full member in 2017.
- It should be noted that President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan will assume the chairmanship of SCO in 2021

International Bird Festival in February 2021

- International Bird Festival will be organised in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh(UP) in February 2021

CHINA

- 2nd World Health Expo held in Wuhan, China

T S Tirumurti virtually addresses the 44th Annual G-77 Foreign Ministers Meeting

- India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) Ambassador T S Tirumurti virtually addressed the 44th Annual Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 (G77)

12th BRICS summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping – to have a face to face 'virtual' meeting on November 17 for the second time this month at the 12th BRICS summit
- The summit will be hosted by Russian President Vladimir Putin

15th East Asia Summit 2020; EAM S. Jaisankar represented India

- External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar represented India at the 15th East Asia Summit (EAS) 2020 held virtually Under Viet Nam's 2020 ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Chairmanship. The summit was chaired by Prime Minister of Vietnam, Nguyen Xuan Phuc in his capacity as ASEAN Chair.

4th Global Conference on Criminal Finances and Cryptocurrencies

- It was organised by the Interpol, Europol and the Basel Institute on Governance over 2,000 representatives from 132 countries attended the virtual Conference which focussed against the Criminal use of Cryptocurrencies

15th G20 Leaders' Summit Virtually Hosted by Saudi Arabia

- The 15th G20 (Group of Twenty) Summit was virtually convened by Saudi Arabia where Indian side was represented by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The summit, chaired by Saudi Arabian King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud saw the participation of respective Heads of State/ Government of 19 member countries, European Union (EU), other invited countries and international organizations. This was scheduled to take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia but due to COVID-19 it was held virtually.
- The Summit under Saudi Arabia Presidency centered on the Theme, 'Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century For All' .

The 2020 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit

- It was recently hosted 'virtually' by Malaysia.
- The Summit was attended by the US President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping along with leaders from 19 other Asia-Pacific nations.

Afghanistan Conference 2020 held Virtually

- The Indian side was represented by the Union Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

3rd Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo

- The Summit is organised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- The theme for RE- Invest 2020 is 'Innovations for Sustainable Energy Transition'

PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance And Timely Implementation) meeting

- Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi chaired the 33rd PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance And Timely Implementation) meeting which reviewed the multiple projects, grievances and programmes in the presence of concerned Secretaries of the Union Government and Chief Secretaries of the State Governments.

7th Meeting of the Joint Trade Committee

- Piyush Goyal & Dr. Than Myint Co-Chaired the 7th Meeting of the Joint Trade Committee between India and Myanmar Virtually.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

- India will host the 19th edition of heads of Government Council meeting of the eight - nation Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on November 30.
- However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will not attend the meeting and it will be chaired by Vice-President M. Venkaih Naidu.
- The Prime Ministers of China, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan will attend the Virtual Conference

27th APEC Economic Leaders' summit 2020 held virtually; APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 endorsed:

- The 27th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' summit 2020 was virtually hosted by Malaysia from Kuala Lumpur on Nov. 20, 2020. It was chaired by Malaysia's Prime Minister Muhyiddin bin Haji

DEFENCE

Indian Navy - test fired the Anti-Ship Missile (AShM)

- The guided missile corvette INS Kora hit the decommissioned minesweeping warship with a Uran Kh-35 subsonic anti-ship missile with pinpoint accuracy.
- The INS Kora was commissioned to Indian Navy in 1998.

“Sagar Kavach” held at Paradip Coast, Odisha

- A two-day joint coastal security annual exercise “Sagar Kavach” was held on November 5-6 at Paradip Coast, Odisha. It was carried out by the state governments of Odisha and West Bengal.

‘Fire Detection and Suppression System’ (FDSS)

- The DRDO has developed a ‘Fire detection and suppression system’ (FDSS) for passenger buses.
- The new technology can detect fire in buses in less than 30 seconds and can extinguish it within a minute

Indian Navy receives 9th P-8I Surveillance Plane from US at INS Hansa, Goa Naval Airbase

- Indian Navy received the 9th Poseidon 8I maritime surveillance aircraft from the United States (US) at the INS Hansa, Goa Naval Airbase.

Air-launched version of the BrahMos

- The Indian Air Force - has successfully test fired an air-launched version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile.
- The cruise missile was test-fired successfully from the Sukhoi Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft in the Bay of Bengal.

Indian Navy’s 5th Scorpene-class Submarine ‘INS Vagir’

- Indian Navy’s 5th Scorpene-class Submarine ‘INS Vagir’ in Arabian sea waters at Mazagon Dock, Mumbai. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDSL), Mumbai has built ‘Vagir’.
- ‘Vagir’ is part of six Kalvari-Class submarines being built in India.

24th Malabar naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Visakhapatnam

- Warships from the Quad nations, India, the US, Japan and Australia - kicked off the four-day Phase-I of the 24th Malabar naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Visakhapatnam
- The Navies of four countries would conduct a range of high-end training, including air-defence and anti-submarine exercises, aviation, communications and at-sea replenishment between ships

“Bull Strike” at Teresa Island

- Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) conducted a three-day Tri-Service Combat Exercise code named “Bull Strike” from November 3-5,2020 at Teresa Island in Nicobar Group of Islands.
- The exercise saw participation from three services components of ANC, elements of Indian Army’s Parachute Brigade, MARCOS (Marine Commando Force) and Special Forces.

“Hammer”

- India’s newly inducted Rafale omni-role fighter jets - are now all set to also get “Hammer” air-to-ground precision-guided weapons
- ‘Highly agile modular munition extended range’ (Hammer)

‘Varunastra’

- DRDO Chairman Satheesh Reddy flags off First ‘Varunastra’ - Heavyweight Torpedo at BDL, Visakhapatnam Unit.
- The first ‘Varunastra’, heavy weight torpedo to be delivered to the Indian Navy during a ceremony held at Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Visakhapatnam Unit, Andhra Pradesh.
- The Varunastra has been designed and developed by Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam.

India successfully Test-Fires Land-attack version of BrahMos Missile from A & N Island Territory

- Indian Army successfully test-fired the land-attack version of BrahMos supersonic cruise Missile from the Andaman and Nicobar (A & N) Island Territory. The range of the land-attack version of Brahmos supersonic cruise Missile has been extended to 400 Kms from the original 290 kms. It is a surface-to-surface supersonic cruise missile.

'CARAT Bangladesh 2020'

- Bangladesh and US (United States) Navies launched the 'Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Bangladesh-2020' to expand relationships and to broaden maritime awareness between the two sides.

The anti-Satellite Missile System at Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO) headquarters, New Delhi.

- The DRDO successfully conducted anti-satellite missile test at Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha. The Anti-Satellite Weapons designed to destroy satellites for military purposes

A-Sat Missile Model in DRDO Bhawan

- A model of Anti Satellite (**A-SAT**) Missile installed inside the Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) Bhawan premises, New Delhi, was unveiled by Union Defence Minister (Raksha Mantri) Rajnath Singh.
- Mission Shakti' was country's first ever Anti-Satellite (ASAT) Missile Test successfully conducted on 27th March 2019 from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha, where a fast-moving Indian orbiting target satellite in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) was neutralised with pinpoint accuracy.

Naval Fighter

- United States offers F-18 Naval fighter jets for Indian Navy's requirements

DRDO successfully test-fires Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile System at Chandipur, Odisha

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test fired Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) System at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha. The missile with range of 25km to 30 km successfully hit its target during the test.

Astra

- India's first indigenous air-to-air missile, Astra - will soon be tested from the first indigenous fighter Tejas in the next few months
- The integration of the Astra beyond visual range air-to-air missile (BVRAAM) on the Tejas and the "initial ground trials" are complete now

India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)

- The 30th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) -concluded in the Andaman Sea close to the strategic Strait of Malacca.
- The CORPAT facilitates the reduction of Illegal unreported unregulated fishing, maritime terrorism, drug trafficking, piracy and armed robbery.

SITMEX

- The Second edition of the trilateral naval exercise SITMEX – conducted in the Andaman Sea
- The exercise was hosted by the Singapore Navy
- The maritime drill is aimed at enhancing the security of Sea lanes converging towards the Malacca Strait
- As part of Mission Sagar-II, INS Airavat arrived at Port of Mombasa, Kenya, carrying food aid for the people of South Sudan

SIMBEX – 20

- The 27th edition of India – Singapore bilateral maritime exercise, SIMBEX – 20, is scheduled to be held in the same area from November 23 to 25
- The exercise is being conducted between the countries since 1994

MQ-9B Drones

- India - has inducted two MQ-9B Sea Guardian drones for top-notch surveillance missions on lease from an American firm, General Atomics.
- The move is seen as a big capability jump for the armed forces amidst the ongoing military confrontation with China in eastern Ladakh.
- The two drones have already kicked off long-range ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance) missions over the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) from naval air station INS Rajali at Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu.

Varunastra

- The Defence Research Development Organization recently flagged off the country's first heavy weight torpedo, Varunastra
- It was designed and developed by the BDL, Vishakhapatnam unit of Indian Navy.
- Varunastra is a ship – launched electrically propelled heavyweight anti – Submarine torpedo that is capable of targeting quiet submarines

The Indian Coast Guard Ship, ICGS C-452 - was commissioned in the Indian Navy

- The ship was indigenously designed and built by L&T, Surat under the Make in India initiative.

Indian Coast Guard ship 'C-452', designed and built by L&T, commissioned at Ratnagiri

- Western Seaboard Commander Additional Director General (ADG), Rajan Bargoitra virtually commissioned the Indian Coast Guard Ship 'C-452' at Ratnagiri, Maharashtra. It is the 52nd ship in the series of 54 Interceptor Boats.

1st Defence hardware procured on lease under the DAP 2020

- Indian Navy inducts two 'MQ-9B Sea Guardian' American Predator drones on lease
- MQ-9B Sea Guardian became the first defence hardware to be procured on lease under the new Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020

Alternative Operating Base (AOB) of the Indian Navy

- The Navy also plans to set up "submarine pens" - bunkers that help in hiding the submarines from spy satellites and protecting them from air attacks - in the AOB

ECONOMY

15th Finance Commission

- The 15th Finance commission has submitted its report to president Ram Nath Kovind on November 9, 2020
- The commission has recommended devolution of funds between the centre and the States for the period 2021 - 22 to 2025 -26
- The 15th Finance Commission had titled the main report with a unique name 'Finance Commission in Covid Times'

Sovereign Wealth Fund

- Abu Dhabi's SWF becomes 1st Notified Fund to get 100% IT exemption in India

First commercial shipment from Bangladesh through Inland Water Route

- The shipment was received in the Assam's Karimganj on the 'Protocol for Inland Water Trade and Transit' (PIWTT) route.
- India and Bangladesh have a 'Protocol on Trade and Transit' through inland waterways.

SPORTS

2020 Indian Premier League

- Mumbai Indians Won their 5th IPL Title

Award	Player
Orange Cap (Highest Run Scorer of the Season)	KL Rahul (India) of Kings XI Punjab Runs - 670 Matches - 14
Purple Cap (Highest Wicket-Taker of the Season)	Kagiso Rabada (South Africa) of Delhi Capitals Wickets - 30 Wickets, Matches - 17.

Third Season of 2020 Women's T20 Challenge Winner

- Trailblazers lifted their Maiden Women's T20 Challenge at Sharjah.
- Smriti Mandhana of Trailblazers was adjudged Player of the Match
- Radha Yadav (India) of Supernovas became the first bowler in the history of Women's T20 Challenge to pick up a 5-wicket haul when she took 5 wickets in the Finals against Trailblazers.
- Natthakan Chantham became the First Thai Cricketer to be represented in the Tournament.

Khelo India Centres of Excellence

- The Ministry of Sports has approved 6 Khelo India Centres of Excellence in six different states with an allocation of over 64 crores of financial support
- These centres will serve as a platform to upgrade the existing sports infrastructure in all states and Union Territories

Greg Barclay

- He has been named the new independent chair of the International Cricket Council (ICC), the sport's governing body.

AWARDS

National Water Awards

- Tamil Nadu - has topped the Union ministry of Jal Shakti's National Water Awards in the 'best state' (normal) category for the year 2019.

- Best State/Tamil Nadu(1st)
- Best districts in revival of river(South Zone)/Vellore(1st) and Karur(2nd)
- Best district in water conservation(South Zone)/Perambalur (2nd)
- Best Village Panchayat(South Zone)
- Sasthavinathur, Tuticorin(1st)
- Best urban local body/Madurai corporation(2nd)
- Best research/innovation/adaptation of new technology for water conservation/Hari Kuppuswamy, ICAR-Sugar cane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore(1st), T Pradeep, IIT Madras,(2nd) and Va Tech Wabad limited, S Kolathur, Chennai(3rd)

- Maharashtra and Rajasthan bagged second and third prizes respectively in the best state (normal) category.
- Now ready for commissioning, the reservoir will have a storage capacity of 500 million cubic feet.

JCB Prize for Literature

- The Book "Moustache" by Malayalam Author S Hareesh won the JCB Prize for Literature 2020

Dr. Tulsi Chugh Award - Dr. Sathish Mishra

2020 UN Population Award

- HelpAge India and Her Majesty Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, Queen Mother of Bhutan Receive 2020 UN Population Award.

Shuggie Bain

- Scottish writer Douglas Stuart - won the Booker Prize for his acclaimed debut fiction "Shuggie Bain".

BRICS Economic Research Award 2020 - Dr. Adam Yao Liu

Children's Climate Prize Conferred by the Children's Climate Foundation

- 14 - year - Old Vinisha Umashankar from Tiruvannamalai district - won the Children's Climate prize Conferred by the Children's Climate Foundation
- Vinisha was awarded the prize for her innovation- solar ironing cart
- In 2019, Vinisha won the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam IGNITE award after submitting a technical paper on the Solar ironing cart.

Fisheries Self help group award

- Nambikkai fish farmers' group from Pattinapakkam in Chennai - has won this year's best fisheries self help group award from the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- The award was given to the fish farmers group for successfully adopting the technology of converting fish wastes into various Value added products

Vatayan Lifetime Achievement award

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Union Minister of Education received the Vatayan Lifetime Achievement Award 2020 for his contribution to the literary works of India. The award was presented to him by the Vatayan-UK organization in London,England.

TX2 Award

- The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve and the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department - bagged the first international award TX2.
- The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve was awarded for doubling its number of tigers in just four years as against the target of ten years, set by the partners of the award in 2010.

Tamil Nadu Health Department

- It won the national award for organ donation for the sixth consecutive year in a virtual award ceremony
- The 11th Indian Organ Donation Day was celebrated on November 27, and the virtual event was organised by the Union Health Ministry in New Delhi.
- The state health department has written to the Union health minister and chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami asking for a government job reservation for families of organ donors.
- In Tamil Nadu, an organ transplant registry was set up in 2008.

The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation

- TNFDC bagged the award of the best marine government organisation during the world fisheries day in New Delhi.

India-Japan Cooperation Won the OECD's 2019 MAP Award

- The India-Japan Cooperation won the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s 2019 Mutual Agreement Procedure (MAP) Award in category 4 for pairings of jurisdictions that dealt most effectively with their joint caseload for transfer pricing cases. The award was announced during the virtual event of the 2nd OECD Tax Certainty Day organised by OECD

Organ Donation Award

- ROTTO West was awarded as the Best ROTTO in India.
- For the 6th consecutive year Tamil Nadu SOTTO has been awarded the Best State SOTTO in India with 295 transplants, in which 76 were lung transplants which were performed on people who suffered acute forms of COVID-19.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book / Novel	Authors
“Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy”	Tamal Bandyopadhyay
How they Shaped India And the World”	Chinmay Tumbe
“Thavaasmi: Life and Skills Through the Lens of Ramayana”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rallabandi Srirama Chakradhar and co-author Amara Sarada Deepthi. • VP Venkaiah Naidu Virtually Launched the Book Titled.
“Your Best Day Is Today!”	Anupam Kher
Archaeology and the public purpose: Writings on and by MN Deshpande	Nayanjot Lahiri
Mahatma Gandhi	Maile Bujheko Gandhi
Boskiyana	Radhakrishna Praskashan
“I Am No Messiah”	Sonu Sood and co-author Meena Iyer
“Insomnia: Army Stories”	Rachna Bisht Rawat
Barack Obama	A Promised Land
Shuggie Baln	Grove Atlantic
Balochistan: Bruised, Battered and Bloodied”	Francesca Marino’s
Sri Guru Nanak Dev	Kirpal Singh
“Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy”	Tamal Bandyopadhyay
“The Age of Pandemic (1817-1920): How they Shaped India And the World”	Chinmay Tumbe

OBITUARY

T N Krishnan

- The Veteran Violinist and Padama Shri & Padma Bhushan Awardee Tripunithura Narayanaiyer Krishnan (T N Krishnan) passed away at the age of 92 at Chennai.

Bahrain's Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al - Khalifa died

- Prince Khalifa was born into the Al Khalifa dynasty that has ruled Bahrain for the past two centuries.

Father Carlos Gonzalez valles SJ

- Veteran Author & Gujarati Columnist Father Carlos Gonzalez Valles SJ - He was a mathematics lecturer

Soumitra Chatterjee

- Legendary Bengali Actor and Padma Bhushan Awardee Soumitra Chatterjee Passed Away at 85

S. Ramakrishnan

- The third edition of a work with which he had been associated for nearly 30 years – Cre-A: Dictionary of Contemporary Tamil (Tamil-Tamil-English) was released in the hospital by the ventilator-bound Ramakrishnan

Ajay Desai, popularly known as 'Elephant Man'

- Renowned wildlife conservation expert Ajay Adrushyappa Desai
- Ajay undertook research on wild elephants in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR) and Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve and contributed immensely to the state forest department.

Tarun Gogoi - Former Assam Chief Minister Passed Away

- Tarun Gogoi served as the Chief minister of Assam for three terms from 2001 to 2016, He has served as the Member of Legislative Assembly from the Titabor Constituency since 2001. He also served as the member of Parliament for 6 terms and served as a Union Minister for two terms. He represented the Jorhat constituency in the Parliament from 1971 to early 1980's and Kaliabor constituency between 1991 to 1996.

APP/PORTALS

<p>“Wildlife Rescue App” for online monitoring of Wildlife rescue</p>	<p>Reporting and release of wildlife in the wildlife sanctuaries in Chandigarh. The app is an initiative of the Chandigarh’s Department of Forest & Wildlife to rescue the wild animals in distress</p>
<p>Telangana</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Govt of Telangana Launched 2 Mobile Apps: Palle Pragathi Panchayat Secretary app & Palle Pragathi Inspection Officer app To Monitor Palle Pragathi
<p>“Abhayam” mobile phone application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy - launched “Abhayam” mobile phone application. • The App is designed to help women and children travelling in taxis and autorickshaws to raise an alarm in case of any emergency.
<p>Thee app</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To help the people in case of fire accidents, flood, mishaps in deep well, rescue in wildlife, chemical or gas leaks and others

INDEX, RANKING & REPORT

Best Governed States and Union Territory : PAI 2020

- Kerala emerged as the Best Governed State in the Large States Category, Goa emerged as the Best Governed State in Small States Category, Chandigarh emerged as the Best Governed Union Territory based on Governance in the 5th edition of Public Affairs Index 2020 (PAI 2020) released by Public Affairs Centre (PAC)

Overall PAI 2020 Index - Scores and Rankings

Large States: Rank

Rank	Large States	PAI 2020 Index
1	Kerala	1.388
2	Tamil Nadu	0.912
3	Andhra Pradesh	0.531

Small States

Rank	Small States	PAI 2020 Index
1	Goa	1.745
2	Meghalaya	0.797
3	Himachal Pradesh	0.725

Union Territory

Rank	Union Territory	PAI 2020 Index
1	Chandigarh	1.057
2	Puducherry	0.52
3	Lakshadweep	0.003

Interstate Migrant Policy Index (IMPEX) 2019

- The Mumbai (Maharashtra) based research non-profit India Migration Now has released “Interstate Migrant Policy Index (IMPEX) 2019” stating integration of interstate migrants. In accordance to this, the states of **Kerala, Goa, Rajasthan** and **Andhra Pradesh (AP)** have been most successful in integrating migrant workers.

BMI Ranking

- India Ranked 196th in BMI Ranking 2019, Netherlands Tops; Published in The Lancet

- “The Lancet”, according to which India is placed at 196th rank with respect to BMI in boys & ranks 198th in girls
- India’s 19-year-old boys and girls have a BMI of 20.1 means they are also among the shortest in the world.
- India’s boys ranked 180th with an average height of 5.46 feet while girls ranked 182nd with an average height of 5.06 feet

Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2020

- Azim Premji of Wipro Tops followed by Shiv Nadar & Mukesh Ambani

Operation Thunder

- The INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization - conducted Operation Thunder, 2020 across 103 countries around the world
- The Operation Thunder was conducted against environmental crimes
- It resulted in large seizures of protected forestry and wildlife specimen, leading to arrests and investigations world-wide including India.

Bloomberg Billionaires Index

- The Bloomberg Billionaires Index ranked Elon Musk, co-founder & CEO of Tesla as the world’s 2nd richest person with a total net worth of USD 140 Billion after surpassing Bill Gates(USD 129 Billion), co-founder of Microsoft

Global Bribery Risk Matrix

- India - ranked at 77th position in the Global Bribery Risk Matrix, which was released by TRACE recently